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to the Assistant Commission for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

David Elliott Whitten et al.

Applic. No.

09/481,640

Filed

: January 12, 2000

Title

: Variable Length Cutting Device

Examiner

: Clark F. Dexter

Group Art Unit: 3724

AMEND<u>MENT</u>

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office action dated December 21, 2001 kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (twice-amended). A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a rotary cutter;